
	<b>NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE</b> <b>DIVISION OF WORKFORCE SOLUTIONS</b>
	<b>DWS Policy Statement Number: PS 07-2020</b>
	<b>Date: May 21, 2020</b>
	<b>Subject: 2020 Lower Living Standard Income Level and to Rescind DWS Policy Statement Number 10-2019</b>
	<b>From:</b>   <b>Jessica Englert</b> <b>Assistant Secretary for Workforce</b>

**Purpose:** To transmit the income chart identifying the higher of the "Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines" and the "70% Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines" for the year and rescind DWS Policy Statement Number 10-2019.

**Background:** The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) published the Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) in the Federal Register on April 30, 2020.

The LLSIL is used for several purposes under the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Specifically, WIOA SEC.3(36) defines the term "low-income individual" for eligibility purposes, and Sections 127(b)(2)(C) and 132(b)(1)(B)(V)(IV) define the terms "disadvantaged youth" and "disadvantaged adult" in terms of the poverty line or LLSIL for state formula allotments. The governor and state and local Workforce Development Boards use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for youth and adults for certain services.

USDOL Employment and Training Administration (ETA) encourages governors and state/local boards to consult the WIOA Final Rule and ETA guidance for more specific guidance in applying LLSIL to program requirements. WIOA defines the term "low income individual" as one who qualifies under various criteria, including an individual who is in a family with total family income that does not exceed the higher level of the poverty line or 70 percent of the LLSIL.

North Carolina and local Workforce Development Boards use the LLSIL for determining eligibility for Youth and Adult Programs for certain services. WIOA Section 3(36)(B) defines the LLSIL as "that income level (adjusted for regional, metropolitan, urban and rural differences, and family size) determined annually by the U.S. Secretary of Labor based on the most recent lower living family budget issued by the Secretary."

**Action:** The attached 2020 Income Chart is to be used to determine low-income status of applicants for WIOA services as noted in WIOA Section 3(36)(B).

**Effective Date:** April 30, 2020 (Per USDOL)

**Contact:** Division Planners and Monitors

**Attachment 1:** 2020 Income Chart

**Adjusted Income Chart Identifying the Higher of the Federal Poverty Level Income Guidelines and the 70% Lower Living Standard Income Level Guidelines, Including Metropolitan and Non-Metropolitan**

**Adjustments for Family Size Differences**

**Effective: April 30, 2020  
(Per U.S. Department of Labor)**

Family Size		Non-Metropolitan		Metropolitan	
1		\$12,760		\$12,760	
2		\$17,240		\$17,240	
3		\$21,720		\$22,060	
4		\$26,425		\$27,234	
5		\$31,184		\$32,143	
6		\$36,469		\$37,593	
For Each Additional Family Member Add		\$5,285		\$5,450	
Metropolitan Statistical Area Counties					
Alamance County	Cumberland County	Granville County	Madison County	Randolph County	
Alexander County	Currituck County	Guilford County	Mecklenburg County	Rockingham County	
Brunswick County	Davidson County	Harnett County	Nash County	Rowan County	
Buncombe County	Davie County	Haywood County	New Hanover County	Stokes County	
Burke County	Durham County	Henderson County	Onslow County	Union County	
Cabarrus County	Edgecombe County	Hoke County	Orange County	Wake County	
Caldwell County	Franklin County	Iredell County	Pamlico County	Wayne County	
Catawba County	Forsyth County	Johnston County	Pender County	Yadkin County	
Chatham County	Gaston County	Jones County	Person County		
Craven County	Gates County	Lincoln County	Pitt County		